

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 /047 W

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R 071735Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2726

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

ALL EC CAPITALS 0116

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 19794

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, US, UK, EEC, FR

SUBJECT: QUAI COMMENTS ON CURRENT EUROPEAN ISSUES

REF: PARIS 19396

1. DUFOURCQ, QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR WESTERN EUROPEAN  
AFFAIRS OFFERED EMBOFF FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON CURRENT  
EUROPEAN THEMES:

2. SECRETARY'S LONDON SPEECH:

QUAI, AS WELL AS ELYSEE STAFF (WHICH WE UNDERSTAND  
URGED GISCARD TO STUDY TEXT IN ITS ENTIRETY), CONSIDERS  
SECRETARY'S LONDON SPEECH TO BE MAJOR, WELCOME EVENT IN  
U.S. RELATIONSHIP WITH EUROPE. DUFOURCQ SAID IT WAS  
GENUINE RELIEF FOR FRENCH AND OTHER EUROPEANS TO HAVE  
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THIS CLEAR US RECOMMITMENT TO EUROPEAN UNIFICATION.

EVEN SO THERE REMAINED CERTAIN NAGGING QUESTIONS. EURO-PEAN-US DISAGREEMENTS OF 1973 HAD COME AT TIME WHEN COMMUNITY WAS RELATIVELY STRONG. SUBSEQUENTLY, COMMUNITY WAS WEAKENED BY ENERGY CRISIS, FROM WHICH IT STILL HAS NOT FULLY RECOVERED. QUESTION THEREFORE OCCURS TO SOME FRENCH OBSERVERS TO WHAT EXTENT EUROPEAN PASSAGES OF LONDON SPEECH WERE FACILITATED BY FACT THAT, FOR THE MOMENT, EC DID NOT CONFRONT U.S. WITH ANY MAJOR PROBLEMS. ACID TEST, DUFOURCQ SAID, WOULD COME IN SITUATIONS IN WHICH U.S. AND EUROPEAN INTERESTS AGAIN CONFLICT; FOR INSTANCE, IF EUROPEANS SHOULD REACH CONCLUSIONS ON NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT FROM THE U.S. IF, IN SUCH CONTEXT, WASHINGTON DID NOT "TRY TO FORCE" EUROPEANS ONTO U.S. LINE, AND CONTINUED TO PLACE SUPPORT FOR EUROPEAN UNIFICATION ABOVE OTHER U.S. INTERESTS, THEN, DUFOURCQ CONCLUDED, LONDON SPEECH WILL INDEED HAVE BEEN "STROKE OF GRACE" AND HISTORIC TURNING POINT. EMBOFF SAID SPEECH SPEAKS FOR ITSELF.

3. GISCARD'S UK TRIP AND THE "TRIANGULAR" RELATIONSHIP:

TURNING TO IMPLICATIONS GISCARD'S UK TRIP, DUFOURCQ CONFIRMED INTERPRETATIONS OFFERED ELYSEE (REFTEL). RESTORATION FRANCO-UK TIES CLOSES REMAINING SIDE OF BONN-PARIS-LONDON TRIANGLE. FRENCH DO NOT INTEND PRESS THIS NEW THREE-CORNERED RELATIONSHIP TO POINT OF ESTABLISHING THE DIRECTORATE GISCARD HAD ONCE SPOKEN OF. STILL, TO EXTENT THE THREE BIG EUROPEAN POWERS (ITALY IS MOMENTARILY EXCLUDED BECAUSE OF ITS INTERNAL MALADIES) CAN AGREE TO REASONABLE SOLUTIONS TO EUROPEAN PROBLEMS, THE SMALLER COUNTRIES WILL INEVITABLY HAVE TO FOLLOW AND "EUROPE'S" CAUSE WOULD BE ADVANCED. DUFOURCQ ADMITTED THAT THE SMALL STATES FOR MOMENT DO NOT LIKE THIS.

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PRS-01 DODE-00 /047 W

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R 071735Z JUL 76  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2727  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
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AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISSION NATO  
USMISSION USUN  
ALL EC CAPITALS 0117

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 19794

HOWEVER HE EXPECTS THAT, AS SOLUTIONS TO KEY QUESTIONS ARE FOUND, AND IF WAY IS CAREFULLY PAVED PSYCHOLOGICALLY, "SCREAMS" WILL GRADUALLY LESSEN, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE SMALL STATES WILL CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL EC-NINE DISCUSSIONS, THE ONLY FORUM WHERE EC DECISIONS CAN BE REACHED.

4. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT:

DUFOURCQ ALSO AGREED THAT SOLUTION TO EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT SEATING ISSUE IS NEAR; THAT FRENCH-GERMAN SUMMIT IN HAMBURG WILL PROBABLY HAVE ADVANCED IT FURTHER; AND THAT FEW FINAL PROBLEMS CAN BE IRONED OUT AT EUROPEAN COUNCIL. HE CONFIRMED IMPRESSION, ALSO REPORTED REFTEL, THAT BASIC COMPROMISE INVOLVED FRENCH ACCEPTANCE OF CONFIDENTIAL

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DOUBLING OF PRESENT NUMBER OF SEATS. ISSUE NOW REVOLVES ON FINDING PROPER CORRECTIVES, BY ADDING CERTAIN NUMBERS OF SEATS TO THOSE OF LARGE STATES AND SUBTRACTING A FEW FROM SMALL ONES TO SATISFY ALL INTERESTS. ACCORDING TO DUFOURCQ, REMAINING PROBLEM INVOLVES DENMARK AND IRELAND, SINCE DANES WANT LARGER NUMBER OF SEATS PROPORTIONATE TO THEIR SOMEWHAT LARGER POPULATION. DUFOURCQ SEEMED REASONABLY CONFIDENT SOLUTION WILL BE REACHED AT UPCOMING EUROPEAN COUNCIL.  
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